Serial No. 10/018,020 Docket No. Y31-138999C/KK

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A lithium battery comprising: having

a power-generating element comprising at least a positive electrode, a negative electrode and a separator, at least a part of said power-generating element comprising wherein a gel electrolyte comprising at least a polymer and a liquid electrolyte, is used in at least a part of said power-generating element, characterized in that

wherein a the concentration of lithium salt in said liquid electrolyte is from greater than 2 to 4 1.5 to 5 mols per  $\ell$  of the liquid electrolyte.

- Claim 2. (Currently amended) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein the weight fraction of the polymer <u>in constituting</u> said gel electrolyte <del>comprising at least a polymer and a liquid electrolyte</del> is from 5 to 30% by weight based on the sum of the weight of said polymer and said liquid electrolyte.
- Claim 3. (Currently amended) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein said gel electrolyte comprises a hardened is obtained by hardening a mixture of a liquid electrolyte and a monomer having at least two polymerizable functional groups in its molecular chain.
- Claim 4. (Original) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein said lithium salt comprises LiBF<sub>4</sub>.
- Claim 5. (Currently amended) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein the organic solvent constituting said liquid electrolyte comprises an organic solvent comprising contains  $\gamma$  butyrolactone in an amount of not smaller than 50% by weight.
- Claim 6. (Currently amended) The lithium battery claimed in claim 2, wherein said gel electrolyte comprises a hardened is obtained by hardening a mixture of a liquid electrolyte and a monomer having at least two polymerizable functional group in its molecular chain.

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Claim 7. (Original) The lithium battery claimed in claim 2, wherein said lithium salt comprises LiBF<sub>4</sub>.

Claim 8. (Original) The lithium battery claimed in claim 3, wherein said lithium salt comprises LiBF<sub>4</sub>.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) The lithium battery claimed in claim 2, wherein the organic solvent constituting said liquid electrolyte comprises an organic solvent comprising contains γ-butyrolactone in an amount of not smaller than 50% by weight.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) The lithium battery claimed in claim 3, wherein the organic solvent constituting said liquid electrolyte comprises an organic solvent comprising contains γ-butyrolactone in an amount of not smaller than 50% by weight.

Claim 11. (Currently amended) The lithium battery claimed in claim 4, wherein the organic solvent constituting said liquid electrolyte comprises an organic solvent comprising contains γ-butyrolactone in an amount of not smaller than 50% by weight.

Claim 12. (New) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein said liquid electrolyte comprises greater than 2 to 3 mols per liter of said lithium salt.

Claim 13. (New) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein said liquid electrolyte comprises a plurality of lithium salts.

Claim 14. (New) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein said liquid electrolyte comprises an organic solvent comprising at least one of  $\gamma$ -butyrolactone, propylene carbonate and ethylene carbonate.

Claim 15. (New) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein said lithium salt comprises an inorganic anion comprising at least one of PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>, ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, AsF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>, and SCN<sup>-</sup>.

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Claim 16. (New) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein said lithium salt comprises an organic anion.

Claim 17. (New) The lithium battery claimed in claim 3, wherein said monomer comprises one of a bifunctional (meth) acrylate, a trifunctional (meth) acrylate, and a tetrafunctional (meth) acrylate.

Claim 18. (New) The lithium battery claimed in claim 1, wherein said concentration of said lithium salt in said liquid electrolyte is at least 2.2 mols per  $\ell$  of the liquid electrolyte, and wherein said lithium battery comprises a discharge capacity of at least 4.0 mAh.

Claim 19. (New) A lithium battery comprising:

positive and negative electrodes; and

a separator formed between said positive and negative electrodes,

wherein at least one of said positive electrode, said negative electrode and said separator comprises a gel electrolyte comprising a polymer and a liquid electrolyte,

wherein said liquid electrolyte comprises greater than 2 to 4 mols per liter of said lithium salt.

Claim 20. (New) A method of fabricating a lithium battery, said method comprising: forming positive and negative electrodes; and

forming a separator between said positive and negative electrodes,

wherein at least one of said positive electrode, said negative electrode and said separator comprises a gel electrolyte comprising a polymer and a liquid electrolyte,

wherein said liquid electrolyte comprises greater than 2 to 4 mols per liter of said lithium salt.